

longitudinal fabric flaps, wherein the step of introducing comprises introducing the intermediate layer through the at least one opening.

⁴⁰
~~65~~. (new) A process for welding a cover sheet onto an end surface of a sack using a fabric for the sack or the cover sheet, the process comprising the steps of:

coating at least one surface of the fabric with a molten polymer;

heating the fabric coating until only an outside surface area of the coating becomes plasticized;

pressing the end surface and the cover sheet together; and

cooling the end surface and cover sheet to ambient temperature, wherein only an external surface area of the end surface and the cover sheet includes disoriented polymer molecules and a remainder of the end surface and cover sheet has oriented molecules.

⁴¹
~~66~~. (new) A process according to claim ⁴⁰~~65~~, wherein the step of heating comprises heating the fabric coating by means of hot air.

⁴²
~~67~~. (new) A process according to claim ⁴⁰~~65~~, further comprising the step of mixing the coating with an ethylene and vinyl acetate polymer.

REMARKS:

The specification has been amended to conform to the arrangement of the specification recommended by the Examiner.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indicated allowability of the claims if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Claims 1-25 have been deleted and new claims 26-67 have been added to correct informalities. For instance, improper alternative limitations such as "may be" and "particularly" have been deleted. The correct spelling of

25

"seamless" has been used and proper antecedent basis has been provided for "fabric ends". The new claims more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as his invention. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 26-67 comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112. Applicant further submits that claims 26-67 remain novel and nonobvious over the cited art, and respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

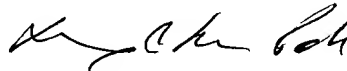
In regard to the claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Austria on May 4, 1994, which forms the priority basis for the PCT application filed on April 26, 1995, Applicant notes that, under the PCT, WIPO will supply a copy of the priority document to the USPTO. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that his duties in regard to the claim for foreign priority have been satisfied.

CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (415) 576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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